

Title: Warders of TWT

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A Warder, also referred to as Gaidin, meaning "Brother to Battle" in the Old Tongue, is a person (traditionally a man) who is bonded by an Aes Sedai through the use of saidar.

Once a Warder has completed their training, they may serve the Aes Sedai as bodyguards.

In their training, they are brought to a pinnacle of melee combat, man for man, Warders are historically considered to be the finest fighters in Sosaria.

They are highly recognizable for their "color-shifting" cloaks, which provide chameleonic camouflage for their wearers. The Warder bond has distinct benefits for both parties. The bonded party (the Warder) gains greater stamina and physical prowess, a greater capacity to resist evil and greater resistance to injury (as well as the proximity of his Aes Sedai, who can probably heal whatever injuries he does take). The Aes Sedai, for her part, gains a bodyguard, confidant and ally-in-schemes who is linked to her and whose behavior can be controlled (to some extent) through the bond. She is also able to draw on her warder's strength if

needed. Both parties are able to sense the others general location, physical well-being and, to some extent, emotional state. Of course, this in itself can cause problems, should one party or the other become intoxicated or involved in romantic liaisons. Death is also a major occupational hazard, if one member of the bond is killed, the other suffers extreme emotional trauma, to the point that most orphaned Warders lose all will to live, and often throw away their lives in a berserker rage. Whether by custom or law all Warders were at one time primarily male. Aes Sedai are capable of bonding several Warders at once, though only the Green Ajah (and Red Ajah none at all) make a habit of it, generally, men are bonded one at a time, as opposed to several through the same bond, and it is unknown if Warders bonded this way have any extrasensory awareness of each other. Recently Asha'man have discovered their own form of the Warder bond using saidin and have begun bonding women as Warders. In the beginning, married men bonded their wives primarily for the benefit of being able to stay in contact with them through the bond, but recently Asha'man have also bonded a small number of Aes Sedai. The fact that both parties can channel has had no known effect on the Warder bond, but there has been speculation that male channelers

universally cannot be controlled the way normal Warders can.